Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 029670 ORIGIN COME-00

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P 092235Z FEB 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, PO

S'BJECT: MAJOR PROJECTS: PETROGAL (SACOR) AND SINES

- PROJECTS - LITWIN INTEREST

REF: A) STATE 022485, B) LISBON 0667, C) 76 STATE 313041

- D) 76 STATE 309467, E) 76 LISBON A-258
- 1. AS EMBASSY ALREADY AWARE, PER REFS A-D ON SINES COMPLEX, LITWIN CORP. EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN PURSUING DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS ON PORTUGUSE PROJECTS IN PETROLEUM/CHEMICAL SECTORS. COMPANY ALSO ADVISES INTEREST IN UPCOMING SACOR PROJECTS MENTIONED REF E.
- 2. CABO RUIVO REFINERY EXPANSION/CONVERSION--IN RESPONSE TO PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE FOR DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION WORK ON CATALYTIC CRACKING, PRODUCT SWEETENING AND MEROX LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(GAS CLEANING) UNITS, LITWIN SENT QUALIFICATION MATERIAL TO SR. LOPEZ VAZ OF PETROGAL/SACOR (LISBON) IN DECEMBER. COMPANY HAS NOT RECEIVED RESPONSE AND WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE EMBASSY CHECKING WITH SACOR ON THIS PROJECT TO ASSURE LETTER WAS RECEIVED AND LITWIN IS BEING CONSIDERED. WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER DETAILS EMBASSY CAN DEVELOP INCLUDING WHICH OTHER U.S. AND

FOREIGN FIRMS HAVE APPLIED, WHEN PREQUALIFICATION DECISION WILL BE MADE, TIMING ON BIDDING, ETC.

- 3. CARBON BLACK PLANT-SACOR APPARENTLY MOVING AHEAD WITH PLANS FOR BUILDING 10,000 TON/YEAR CARBON BLACK PLANT ADJACENT TO REFINERY (THEY HAVE APPARENTLY CHOSEN LISBON RATHER THAN SINES SITE MENTIONED ENCLOSURE REF E) AND ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING LICENSING PROCESS TECHNOLOGY FROM EITHER CONTINENTAL CARBON, COLUMBIA CARBON, OR J. M. HUBER CORP. LITWIN HAS BEEN KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH SACOR ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SUPPLYING DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION SERVICES. PROJECT ESTIMATED TO COST DOLLARS 8 MILLION OF WHICH DOLLARS 6 MILLION COULD REPRESENT U.S. SERVICES, LICENSING FEES, AND EQUIPMENT, PROVIDED U.S. FINANCING COULD BE ARRANGED. WOULD BE INTERESTED IN FURTHER INFO EMBASSY CAN DEVELOP ON STATUS THIS PROJECT, POSSIBLE COMPETITION, TIMING FOR DECISIONS ON PROCESS LICENSOR AND ENGINEERING FIRM, ETC.
- 4. RE SINES LDPE PLANT (REFS A, C, D), LITWIN HAS HEARD FROM FRENCH AFFILIATE THAT CNP WILL BE EVALUATING BIDS ON TECHNICAL/PRICE BASIS WITHOUT REQUIRING FINANCING OFFERS, AND CNP WILL SEEK FINANCING AFTER CONTRACT AWARD IS MADE. ON THIS BASIS LITWIN U.S. WOULD BE OUT OF PICTURE (LITWIN S.A. WOULD BID ON ITS OWN) UNLESS CNP LINED UP TIED U.S. FINANCIAL PACKAGE. PLEASE CONFIRM.

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